

REMARKS

In the outstanding Official Action, claims 1-12, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pilniak in view of Tanigawa et al, for the reasons of record. In response, independent claims 1 and 15 are herewith amended to more particularly and precisely recite the novel and unobvious subject matter of the instant invention, and it is respectfully submitted that the currently-pending claims, as herewith amended, are clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied references for the reasons detailed below.

More particularly, it was suggested in the Action that Pilniak, in Fig. 5a, shows a conductive plate 11 having an inductive function with a spiral-shaped slit comprising at least two full 360° loops around a solid center portion 13.1 of the plate, which is the innermost part of the winding 7a of the plate 11.

In response, it is respectfully submitted that a careful examination of the cited Fig. 5a will reveal that the cited end portion 13.1 of the plate is in fact substantially spaced apart from the center portion of the spiral-shaped slit, and that the central portion of the slit is in fact an opening rather than a solid center portion. In fact, the conductive plate 11 in Fig 5a

has a large hole in its center, rather than a solid central portion, and the end portion 13.1 of the plate is located well away from the center of the spiral, and in fact is approximately as close to the outer edges of the structure as it is to the center portion thereof.

In order to more particularly and precisely recite this clear distinction, independent claims 1 and 15 have been amended to recite that the loops are provided around "a solid portion of the plate located at a center portion of the spiral-shaped slit". Clearly, the reference does not show or suggest a solid portion of the plate located at a center portion of the spiral-shaped slit, but rather shows a large open space at the center of the spiral.

Furthermore, it is noted that Pilniak discloses a three-dimensional structure of conductive plates 11 stacked one above the other, an arrangement which is directly contrary to that of the instant invention, wherein the inductors are formed in a single plane, as positively recited in claims 1 and 15.

With regard to the disclosure of the solid portion of the plate located at a center portion of the spiral-shaped slit, attention is directed, *inter alia* to Figs. 2, 7, and 8, which clearly show the recited structure, and the associated description thereof in the instant specification.

Furthermore, the deficiencies in Pilniak as discussed above are not overcome by combining Pilniak with Tanigawa, since the cited portion of that reference also clearly shows a printed coil with a central hole (31c) rather than any solid portion of a plate forming the inductor and located at a center portion of a spiral-shaped slit.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 15, as herewith amended to more particularly and precisely recite the instant invention, and the remaining claims depending therefrom, are clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied references. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that allowance of the instant application is justified at the present time, and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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